

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A glass for covering electrodes, which consists essentially of, as represented by mass percentage based on the following oxides, from 35 to 55% of PbO, from 15 to 30% of B₂O₃, from 4 to 15% of SiO₂, from 20 to 44% of B₂O₃+SiO₂, from 0.5 to 10% of TiO₂+ZrO₂+La₂O₃+Ta₂O₅, from 0 to 15% of Al₂O₃, from 0 to 25% of BaO, from 0 to 1% of CuO and from 0 to 1% of CeO₂.

Claim 2 (Original): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the content of Al₂O₃ is from 1 to 10%, and the content of BaO is from 12 to 20%.

Claim 3 (Original): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein CuO is contained, and the content of TiO₂ is from 0 to 4.5%.

Claim 4 (Original): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, which has a softening point of from 520 to 650°C.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A colored powder for covering electrodes, which comprises a powder of the glass for covering electrodes as defined claimed in Claim 1 and a pigment.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a plasma display device, wherein covering of transparent electrodes formed on a glass substrate constituting comprising a front substrate, is carried out by coating and firing a powder of the glass for covering electrodes as defined in Claim 1, to cover the electrodes.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A process for producing a plasma display device, wherein covering of transparent electrode electrodes formed on a glass substrate ~~constituting comprising~~ a front substrate, is carried out by coating and firing the colored powder for covering electrodes as ~~defined claimed~~ in Claim 5, to cover the electrodes.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A plasma display device comprising a glass substrate ~~constituting comprising~~ a front substrate and transparent electrodes formed on the glass substrate, wherein the transparent electrodes are covered by the glass for covering electrodes as defined in Claim 1.

Claim 9 (New): A plasma display device comprising a glass substrate comprising a front substrate and transparent electrodes formed on the glass substrate, wherein at least one transparent electrode is covered by a colored glass obtained from the colored powder as claimed in Claim 5.

Claim 10 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the content of PbO is at least 40% and at most 50%.

Claim 11 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the content of B₂O₃ is at least 18% and at most 28%.

Claim 12 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the content of SiO₂ is at least 4.5% and at most 12%.

Claim 13 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the $B_2O_3+SiO_2$ content ranges from 25 to 40%.

Claim 14 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the $TiO_2+ZrO_2+La_2O_3+Ta_2O_5$ content ranges from 1 to 7%.

Claim 15 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein Al_2O_3 is present in the glass in an amount that is at least 1% and at most 8%.

Claim 16 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein BaO is present in the glass in an amount that is at least 1% and at most 20%.

Claim 17 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the glass has a softening point of from 450 to 650°C.

Claim 18 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the glass has a softening point of from 550 to 620°C.

Claim 19 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the glass has a relative dielectric constant ϵ at 1 MHz of from 10.8 to 13.

Claim 20 (New): The glass for covering electrodes according to Claim 1, wherein the glass has a transmittance of light at 550 nm of at least 72%.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1-8 are pending.

Claims 5-8 are amended. The amendments to Claims 5-8 serve to improve readability. New Claims 9-19 are added. Support for the new claims is found in the Specification and Claims as originally filed. Specific support for each claim is found as follows:

Claim	Support
9	original Claim 7
10	p. 6, ll. 17-20
11	p. 6, ll. 21-26
12	p. 7, ll. 6-11
13	p. 7, l. 11
14	p. 7, ll. 12-18
15	p. 7, ll. 23-27
16	p. 8, ll. 2-7
17-18	p. 5, ll. 14-18
19	p. 6, ll. 8-10
20	p. 15, ll. 22-27

It is believed that no new matter will be added upon entry of the amendment.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-20 will be active.

SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

Applicants thank Examiners Zimmerman and Williams for conducting the kind and courteous discussion with Applicants' representative on November 18, 2004.

Applicants also thank Examiner Williams for conducting a second discussion with Applicants' representative on December 1, 2004.

The content of the December 1, 2004 discussion is particularly relevant to two of the outstanding rejections and is summarized as follows.

Applicants' representative explained to the Examiner that the portion of the disclosure of U.S. Patent No. 6,160,345 (hereinafter referred to as US '345) used in support of the rejection of the claims is erroneous. In particular, Table 1.B describes a PbO-based glass; but instead should describe a Bi₂O₃-ZnO-based glass. Support for this fact is found in the text in column 10, lines 3-18; in which reads as follows:

As shown in Table 1, the dielectric glass layers 13 and 23 of PDP Example Nos. 1-8, and 12 are made of glasses based on PbO-B₂O₃-SiO₂-TiO₂-Al₂O₃. The dielectric constant ϵ of the glasses varies in a range of 10 to 20 because of the differences in glass composition. The thicknesses of the dielectric glass layers 13 and 23 are set to a range of 5 μm to 14 μm .

The discharge gas is a He-Xe mixture gas including 5% by weight of Xe and the charging pressure is set to 600 Torr.

The dielectric glass layers 13 and 23 of PDP Example Nos. 14-20 are made of glasses based on Bi₂O₃-ZnO-B₂O₃-SiO₂-CaO-TiO₂. The dielectric constant of the glasses is set to a range of 12 to 24. The discharge gas is a He-Xe mixture gas including 7% by weight of Xe and the charging pressure is set to 600 Torr.

Example Nos. 1-8 and 12 are made of a PbO-based glass, while Example Nos. 14-20 are made from a Bi₂O₃-ZnO-based glass. Additional support for the error contained in US '345 is found in JP 11-54051 (hereinafter referred to as JP '051), which is a publication of US '345's Japanese priority document (JP Application No. 9-326818). Applicants attach herewith a copy of the cover page and page 14 of JP '051 that illustrates this error. The Table on page 14 of JP '051 shows that Example Nos. 14-20 and 23-24 are Bi₂O₃-Zn-based glasses – not PbO-based glasses.

During this discussion, Applicants' representative highlighted several errors in U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0024582 (hereinafter referred to as US '582, now U.S. Patent No. 6,470,167). The errors of interest appear in Tables 4 and 5.

In Table 4, the defined ranges of the required components PbO (40-90 wt%), SiO₂ (10-40 wt%), and B₂O₃ (5-30 wt%) are clearly in error. For example, when the maximum amount of PbO is employed addition of the minimum amount of the other required components results in a total that exceeds 100wt%.

In Table 5, B₂O₃ is listed twice. It is assumed that the first listing in the Table is that of Bi₂O₃. But regardless of its correct identity, when the maximum amount of PbO is employed, addition of the minimum amount of the other required components results in a glass whose total composition exceeds 100wt%.